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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
INFORMATION REPORTCOUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone)  
SUBJECT RFT Erfurt Tube Production

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1. Production of tubes at the RFT Erfurt in November 1953 was at the same rate as previously. A larger production volume, however, is planned for 1954. The increase will not be attained by new investments, but various tube types will be taken out of production, including the so-called "Red series," which until recently have still been manufactured for the Soviet Union. They belong to the 9 series of E tubes. The production of K tubes of the 11 series will also be reduced. The D tubes will be taken out of production altogether.
2. It is planned to have the production of the 181 series going in greater volume by early February. This series until now has been under development, but the work has been finished. The tubes are characterized by a smaller size (about 3 cm) and better capacitive qualities between grid and anode. Production of so-called high frequency tubes will also commence in early February. These tubes provide the frequency rectification and mixing in high frequency amplification. Power tubes will not be produced for the time being.
3. The RFT broadcasting plants have been directed to adjust their broadcasting equipment for the future to the heretofore conventional tubes. The ECH 181 tube will not be available to civilians in future; it is manufactured by three works in the Zone: RFT Erfurt, Röhrenwerk Neuhaus, and HF Berlin. A smaller plant in Leipzig, likewise belonging to the RFT, will still participate in the production of the EP 181 tube.
4. The E 181 series in future will mean 6.3 volt and 200 milli-ampere tubes. In designating tubes, C signifies triode; H, hexode; F, pentode for high frequency amplification; B, duo-diode for high frequency rectification; L, end pentode or tetrode.

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5. The production of quartz crystals is also to be increased. Appropriate directives have already gone to the Saxon quartz smelting and working plants. These crystals are especially in demand by the Soviet Union. They are valued first of all for special high frequencies, on account of their small weight and minimum size. The crystals are held between two silver plates which are pressed against the crystal by springs. These crystals have no longer been produced in the usual quantities of late because the silver now delivered is as good as none. How high the production is to be is not decided.
6. The RFT Erfurt delivered 16 oscillographs to the Soviet Union in November 1953. They were for Soviet factories. Seven electronic voltmeters for the Soviet Union were also delivered to the Bureau of Weights and Measures to be adjusted. Two 20-watt telemeters were delivered to Czechoslovakia; another of the same capacity will be delivered to the Soviet Union on 15 Jan 54.
7. Material shortages are chiefly anode plates and wire for base feeder lines (Durchleitung). There are also difficulties with the supply of fluorescent material. The Thuringian plants cannot furnish enough material to the DHZ on account of their deliveries to the Soviet Union.

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